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Saturday, February 23, 1952.

Another session this morning at the French Embassy, Messrs. Acheson, Lovett, Snyder, Draper, Nash, Pawley and myself on the U.S. side, and Messrs. Faure, Schuman, Alphand, Bourges-Manoury, Monnet, Guindey, Gaillard and others for the French.

Faure agreed to increase his military budget to a figure that would represent 1225 billion francs to be contributed from French resources, and the U.S. will undertake to commit 200 million dollars (within the limit of 600 million dollars overall assured to the French last autumn) for offshore-procurement, especially of items needed for Indochina.

The French will notify NATO [redacted] they will undertake to maintain 12 divisions in the West (two of them skeletonized) and 27 air squadrons, together with certain naval contingents.

[redacted] will make the French financial contribution for military purposes the largest of any

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European nation, including the U.K., in proportion to national income. It will, I think, cost Faure his job, [redacted] for its realization would, in my opinion, unbearably strain French finances, [redacted] already at the breaking point. Faure handled the matter with great frankness, realism and courage.

This afternoon there was a Council meeting, numbers of conferences, and a late return to the Aviz.

E. and I had an [redacted] enjoyable lunch with Adele and Bob Lovett at the Restaurant Tavares.

The Council concluded its deliberations to-day - its ninth and most productive session.

E's aunt and uncle, [redacted] Ramsay, for a jolly dinner. Since his retirement from the British Diplomatic Service, they have lived in Portugal.

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